

Rex Leonard Smith

13.03.1946 – 07.12.2023

Rex was a really lovely guy, he was very private about his life and work, he never bragged about his professional position or his achievements in Scouting. Although he had problems with mobility and of course Diabetes, he was a dedicated professional and probably most important of all, his volunteering in Scouting was something he loved from the moment he joined as a young person and served throughout his life.

Rex was the Leader of the Scout Troop at 13th Roxeth from 1973 and was for a time District Scout Leader for Roxeth District. He became ADC (Scouts) for Roxeth and Scout Section Lead for the County. On 1st January 1988 Rex relinquished his County Scout role and became the County Lead for International travel and events, and for some time the Lead for Activities. Rex supported/guided many Leaders to deliver great Scouting. Rex was the Assistant County Commissioner for Special Needs (now known as Inclusion) for a time and was awarded his Silver Wolf Award in 2006.

Rex was our International Commissioner for 20 years and this was perhaps his greatest passion. His knowledge and skills in helping Leaders through the process of running expeditions across the Globe was remarkable. He was a methodical thinker especially round the Associations rules and regulations for expeditions. He knew that corners were not for cutting, that a good programme, risk management and insurance were paramount for success. He went out of his way to encourage and help wherever possible. A role he carried out magnificently. His international role brought him into contact with Kandersteg International Scout Centre (KISC), especially with some of the early County Expeditions to the site. His association with KISC became very close, and he was voted in as their UK representative for many years, establishing the UK Kandersteg Network – SASU, through which many Queen Scouts & DoE Gold Awards were completed. He was recognised by the Centre for his support in advising many units with their travel arrangements, by sharing his knowledge and passion for the site and encouraging so many to travel explore the local activities. Rex was due to gain his 50 Years Service Award in February 2024.

